

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FBOE-00 A-01 /017 W

----- 108450

R 080825Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6396

UNCLAS TEHRAN 3527

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC, AFSP, IR

SUBJ: MSG HOUSING

REF: MSG BN ARLINGTON VA MESSAGE NO 1300/0222512

APRIL 76(NOTAL)

1. AMBASSADOR RECEIVED TELEGRAM DIRECTLY FROM MSG
COMMANDING OFFICER, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA WHICH BYPASSED
STATE SY/FO AND FBO REGARDING QUARTERS PROVIDED MSG
TEHRAN. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING REPLY:

2. FOR OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS THIS MISSION HAS CONSTANTLY
RECOMMENDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF MARINE QUARTERS ON THE EMBASSY
COMPOUND, AS YOU AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ARE AWARE, BUT
FBO HAS FAILED TO APPROVE OUR RECOMMEND-
ATION. UNTIL IT DOES, OUR HANDS ARE TIED TO FISCAL
REALITIES. THE MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK CONSTRUC-
TION AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE NEW QUARTERS FOR THE
MARINES. SUGGEST THAT FURTHER PRESSURE BE DIRECTED
TO APPROPRIATE INTERESTED STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICES.

3. THE MARINE HOUSE WHICH QUARTERS THE WATCHSTAND-
ERS IS AN OLD BUILDING WHICH REQUIRES CONSTANT MAIN-
TENANCE. THE FURNISHINGS ARE ADEQUATE AND CONTINUE
TO BE IMPROVED UPON. IN PAST 3 YEARS THE INTERIOR
OF THE MARINE HOUSE HAS BEEN PAINTED TWICE. ON
APRIL 5, AN INSPECTION OF THE MARINE QUARTERS WAS
MADE BY FOUR EMBASSY OFFICERS. THE MAINTENANCE
PROBLEMS WERE DISCUSSED WITH THE MARINE IN CHARGE,
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AND HE INDICATED THERE WERE MINOR PROBLEMS SUCH

AS LEAKY TOILETS, FAUCETS AND ONE OR TWO MINOR ROOF LEAKS, WHICH IS COMMON TO ALL CONSTRUCTION IN IRAN. HE MENTIONED THE MARINES WERE HAPPY WITH THEIR SURROUNDINGS AND THE MORALE WAS EXCELLENT. IT WAS THE OPINION OF THE 4 EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO INSPECTED ALL OF THE QUARTERS THAT THE FURNISHINGS WERE GOOD, BEDROOMS WERE OF GOOD SIZE AND WELL FURNISHED BUT THE GENERAL APPEARANCE COULD BE IMPROVED UPON. IMMEDIATE MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT PROMPT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON WORK ORDER REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THE MARINES.

4. REGARDING NCOIC QUARTERS, THE POST IS PRESENTLY SEEKING A NEARBY SHORT-TERM GOVERNMENT-LEASED 3-BEDROOM APARTMENT TO HOUSE THE NEW NCOIC WHO IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE JUNE 1, 1976. SINCE THERE IS A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF AVAILABLE APARTMENTS NEAR THE EMBASSY COMPOUND IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE THE NCOIC FIVE TO SIX MILES AWAY. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ANY MARINE BE PERMITTED TO USE WHAT LT. COL. BRAUN QUALIFIES AS A SUB-STANDARD HOUSE FOLLOWING THE DEPARTURE OF NCOIC CLINE. IF OTHER BETTER HOUSING BECOMES AVAILABLE IN NEXT FEW DAYS, CLINE WILL BE ASKED TO MOVE TO BETTER QUARTERS.

5. FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION THE EMBASSY HAS FAMILIES WHO WOULD READILY MOVE INTO THE NCOIC QUARTERS AS SOON AS THEY BECAME VACATED. WE DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDER THIS PARTICULAR HOUSE SUB-STANDARD FOR EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

6. THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER WILL REPLY ON PARAGRAPH 4 OF YOUR MESSAGE THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS. THIS WILL BE IN MEMORANDUM FORM TO THE OFFICE OF SECURITY, DIVISION OF FOREIGN OPERATIONS. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT HUMAN LIFE IS OF CONCERN TO ALL OF US IN TEHRAN. AN ASSESSMENT OF THE NEED FOR GUARD POSTS 5 AND 6 WAS UNDERWAY PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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BRAUN'S INSPECTION. POST NUMBER FIVE WILL STAY IN OPERATION. THE FEASIBILITY OF CONTINUING POST NUMBER SIX WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE SECURITY PERSONNEL ON THE SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE. THE DECISION WILL THEN BE FORWARDED TO A/SY/FO AS PART OF THE REPLY TO THE INSPECTION REPORT.
HELMS

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